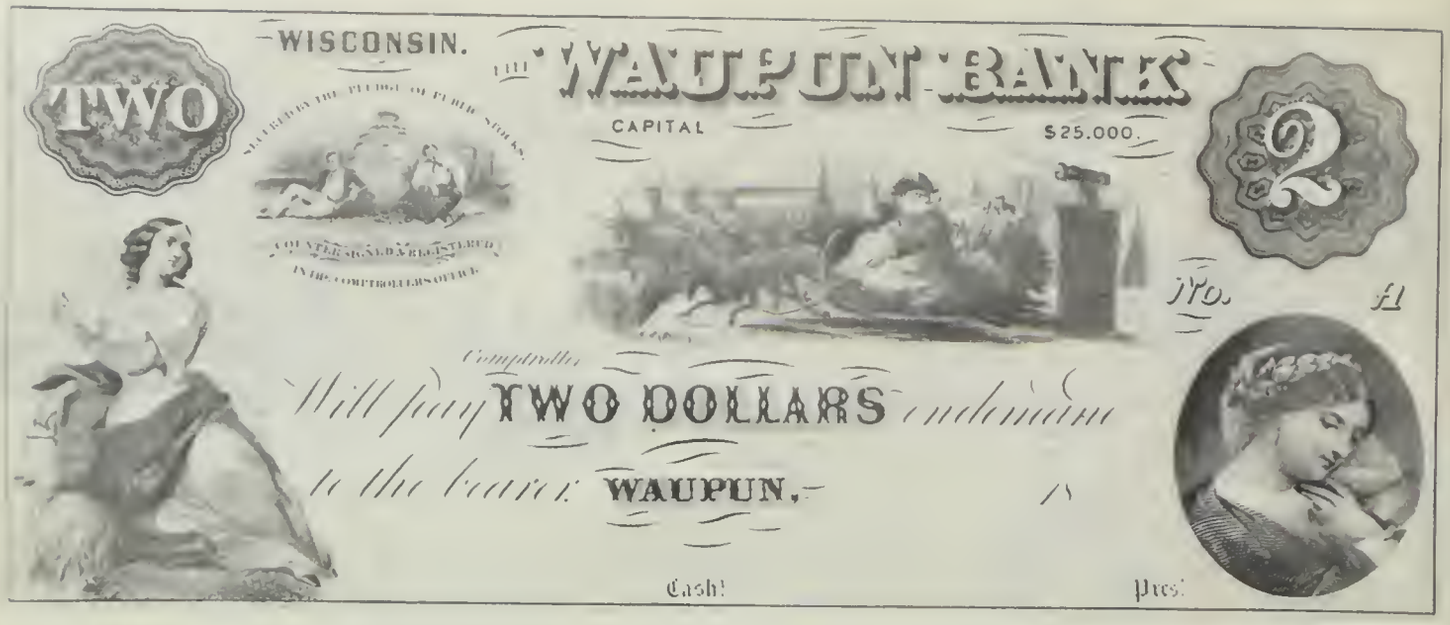
N.O.W. NEWS

Vol. 2 No. 5

Season's Greetings



Christmas is here and again we turn to a broken banknote for our cover. The vignette of Santa and his sleigh on the rooftop is found on the two dollar bill from the Bank of Waupun. Founded in 1856 with a capital of $25,000, the bank issued $1, $2, $3, and $5 bills. It was liquidated in 1862 and 80¢ on the dollar was paid.

NEW HIGH IN N.O.W. MEMBERSHIP

Jim Kroepfl reports that our membership has been increasing every day and now stands at 511. Glen Williams of Fond du Lac deserves special credit for signing up several new members. All members are encouraged by president Parker to join in a membership drive. The goal is 800 in 1965. If every member sends in just one new member this goal will be reached.

Letters with self-addressed return envelopes have been sent out to over 100 members who have not paid their 1964 dues. If your dues aren't paid, send them to Jim Kroepfl, 5219 Lindermann Avenue, Racine, Wis. They still are $1 and a real bargin. The paid-up membership list will be published in the next issue.

N.O.W. EXHIBIT CASES

The Baraboo Coin Club recently became the first coin club to use our N.O.W. cases for a local show. Cost to the club was very small --- just shipping costs from Madison. The cases will be stored at the Sauk County Courthouse until they are used again. Member clubs may use them upon request. We have 24 A.N.A. type exhibit cases in 4 shippers.

GREEN BAY TO HOST N.O.W. CONVENTION

Plans are now being made by the Nicolet Coin Club of historic Green Bay for our spring Numismatists of Wisconsin show on June 4, 5, & 6. The club is working with the Chamber of Commerce and the Visitor's Bureau to provide tours of historical and modern-day sites of interest in Green Bay. Among these are the National Railroad Museum, sites of the oldest hotel and Sac Massacre, and the first bank west of Lake Michigan. Plan now to take in the N. O. W. Convention this spring.

Clayton High, our A. N. A.-N. O. W. liason officer, sends word our dues to the American Numismatic Association are paid. Our number is C44000.

CLUB TIDBITS

The Beaver Dam Coin Club and the Waupun Coin Club viewed A.N.A. slides, "Coins of the Bible."

The Madison Coin Club also viewed slides entitled, "Moneys of the Ancient World". A $50 donation was given to the A.N.A. Building Fund.

Gerald Johnson was elected secretary of the Paper City Coin Club of Wisconsin Rapids. Mr. Johnson also displayed tokens of Wisconsin for the Marshfield Coin Club.

The Racine Coin Club at its November meeting decided to hold their spring show at the Clayton House Motel, site of their last two highly successful shows. The date was not announced.

The La Crosse Show was labeled a success by 24 dealers and 19 exhibitors. Attendance was good, especially for the Sunday auction.

FROM YOUR EDITOR

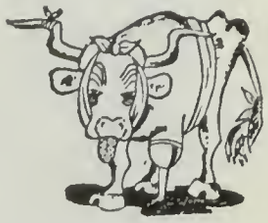
We regret being unable to run some of the newspaper pictures sent to us. The quality of the newsprint wasn't good enough to use. If you want to send original pictures to us, we will return them when we're finished. We are very happy at the response to our requests for news and articles. Thank you and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

You have an 09-S VDB, for me?!

C.O.W.s HOLD SHOW??

You will remember a couple of issues ago we mentioned the COWs (Collectors of Wisconsin) attended our state show in Madison. We see from the "Coin Investor" that the COWs are now moving out on their own...

COLLECTORS OF WISCONSIN FALL Coinaroma, Oct. 16-18, 4-H Main Exhibit Bldg., Main & Green Pasture, Blenker, Wis. General co-chairmen Pasquale Mastitis and Benny Vaca, 32 Scours Blvd., Blenker, Wis.



Aw, come on, fellas!

PAST N.O.W. SECRETARY SEEK TOKEN INFORMATION

Gerald E. Johnson, veteran Wisconsin numismatist and vecturist, is currently canvassing Midwest collectors in an effort to locate and list tokens used in the early 1900's by the horse drawn (and later motorized) hack & transfer lines.

The "Buss" lines, as they were often called, were horse drawn coaches that operated between the hotels and depots.

In some cases the hotels themselves ran the lines but more often an enterprising livery stable operator ran this lucrative sideline.

Fares generally were 15¢ one way or the round trip for 25¢. The tokens were used as a business stimulator and assured the salesman of a return trip to the depot with his heavy sample cases at a reduced rate.

These interesting tokens are a product of the Midwesterners ingenuity and have been used no further west than Stockton, Kansas, and no further east than Logan, Ohio.

Persons having "hotel to depot" tokens in their coin collections are asked to send a pencil rubbing to Mr. Johnson at 1921 Chase Street, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.

PRE-CIVIL WAR CURRENCY EXHIBIT WINS BEST IN SHOW AT MILWAUKEE

An exhibit of pre-Civil War currency earned this best in show trophy for Ron Calkins, Mazomanie, at the recent Milwaukee coin show. Ron collects coins, currency, and banknotes. His hobby started when he was a newspaperboy and searched through the coins on collection days.

The collection of uncut sheets of bank notes come from the era of wildcat banking before 1863 when almost anyone could open a bank and issue banknotes. Normally the banknotes were backed by a pledge of stocks or securities and could be redeemed in gold or silver.

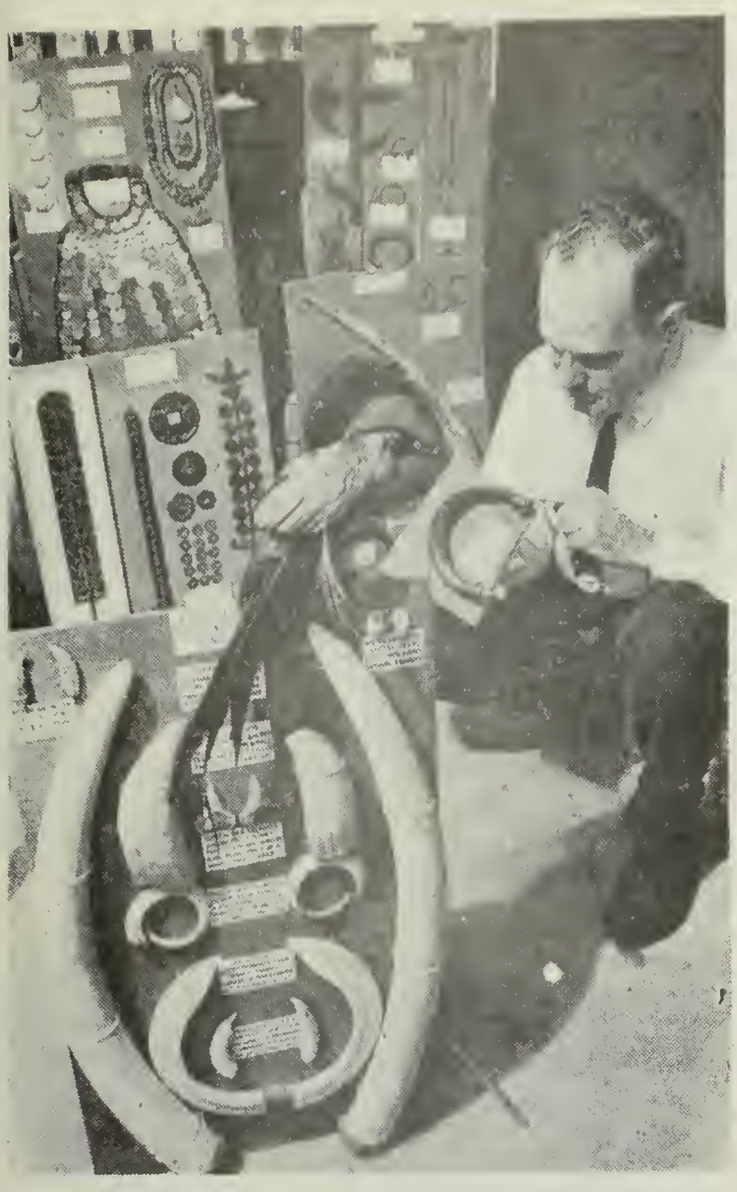
Some banks, however, continued to issue notes after suspension of specie payments and some of the notes really were not worth the paper they were printed on. Often the redemption centers were located in out-of-the-way places.

This was the shyster era of Wisconsin banking and ended in 1863 when the federal government enacted the national bank act and later put a 10% tax on all state and private banknotes. This act and the civil war closed or "broke" most of the state banks resulting in the "broken" banknotes in Ron's collection.

CLUB PROFILE

The Milwaukee Numismatic Society was founded 30 years ago on October 29, 1934. Started as an information exchange by 6 collectors, the group first met in the back room of H.L. Polzer's jewelry store. As the club grew in membership they moved to different locations and finally moved to their present location at the Memorial Center, 750 North Lincoln Memorial Drive (at the Lake front). The club meets the third Wednesday of every month and has 150 members. A varied and interesting meeting is held, with displays, talks, coffee & doughnuts and an auction. Bourse tables are also available for the dealers. The meetings have an average of over 100 collectors from the Milwaukee area. The present Secretary is Lauretta Schoen, 495 Gurtis Rd. West Allis, Wisconsin, 53214.

Virgil Jackson holds the special award he won for his U.S. Paper Money exhibit at Fond du Lac. He also recently won Best in Show at Janesville where his wife received a first place award for her Canadian display.



A specialist in unusual items used as money, Gale Highsmith, a Milwaukee numismatist, displays part of his collection. He holds a bronze half ring, used to buy slaves in Africa. Next to it is a bird of paradise, legal tender in New Guinea; its feathers are used for money, too.

—Journal Photo

MILWAUKEE MAN HONORED

Gale V. Highsmith, M.N.S. member #67, has joined the Honorary Members of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, an award given only to those who perform outstanding services to the club and its membership. Others honored as of this writing are: Harry Collura, member #6, Rev. Claude Heithaus, member #161, Erwin Gerber, member #46. A plaque is presented together with a life membership. Gale was given his plaque at the banquet held after the club's highly successful one-day show.

We see that Gale was also awarded a silver medal for his 25 years as a member of the American Numismatic Association. This award was made at the recent A.N.A. convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

But it's as a collector of Odd & Curious where Gale really shines. The Society of Odd & Curious Media, now four years old, is composed of numismatists who are intrigued by things used as money -- the odder, the better.

Though its 50 members stretch from the Orient to Europe, three of them live in the Milwaukee area. Mr. Highsmith, 2825 S. Burrell Street, Milwaukee, is president of this far-flung group. He is a machine designer, computer programmer & former president of the Numismatic Society. His two collector -colleagues are Charles F. Heller, 4556 N. 23rd St., a tool and die machinist and president of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society, and Charles J. Opitz of 3623 N. 62nd St., a city tax accountant. These gentlemen show collections of money ranging from rhinocerous hornes to fine jade carvings from spearheads to bullets. Gale is said to have one of the largest wampum collections in the U.S. He also has a rare bird of paradise, still a medium of exchange in remote areas of New Guinea. Perfect feathers from the birds are used as small change.

In the Katanga area of the Congo, native money is likely to be Baluba crosses. They are simply copper Xs, cast in monds thumbed into sand. In 1961, when Katanga produced coins of its own, they carried a Baluba cross design.

In primitive areas of the world, teeth, tusks and shells have served as money for years. They are available, ornamental, durable -- and teeth and shells can be carried easily. Some of the items are acquired from other collectors, some at estate auctions, some from missionaries who are willing to give up souvenirs to help finance their work.

The collector of the odd and curious cares little for standard coins; he's more interested in uniqueness and perfection of items. If he finds a pair of matched walrus tusks in perfect condition for example, he may part with the mortgage money to get them.

WAUSAU CLUB HOLDS BANQUET

The ninth annual Wisconsin Valley Coin Club banquet was held at Zion Church in Wausau, November 7th. 126 persons enjoyed a fine turkey dinner.

Speakers for the evening were Ed Rochette, Editor of Numismatic News, who spoke on the News sponsored European tour, and Chet Krause who discussed his experience with skin divers seeking sunken treasure ships in the Florida costal waters.

Music for the evening was provided by the "Dixieland Five", soon to appear on the Ted Mack television show.

Fifty door prizes were awarded and 110 auction lots were held down by auctioneer Connie Schepp.

ODDS 'N ENDS

in club news

130 ATTEND BANQUET

The Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club of West Bend recently held their annual banquet. 130 members and guests heard Al Zarne of the Milwaukee Club talk on counterfeit money. President Erwin J. Franzel acted as M. C. and auctioneer. Mr. Franzel also edits the club paper, the "Kettle Moraine Tattler". The club meets on the second Thursday of each month. Organized in January, the new club already has over 100 members.

SECOND FOND DU LAC COIN JAMBOREE ATTRACTS 600

The Second Annual Coin Jamboree held by the Fond du Lac Coin Club attracted about 600 persons who viewed 39 cases of varied coins, currency and miscellaneous other items. The show was held in the banquet hall at Karl-Ray Lanes.

The Best of Show trophy was awarded to James H. Medd of Green Bay who displayed coins of Mexico and Canada in two cases entitled, "Our Southern Neighbors," and "Our Northern Neighbors". Medd said it was the first time he had displayed competitively.

Special award was presented to Virgil Jackson who displayed five frames of U.S. old series paper money non-competitively. He had previously won best of show in Baraboo, Janesville, and La Crosse, Wis.

Judges for the show were Lyle Thomas of Janesville, Gerald E. Johnson of Wisconsin Rapids, & Floyd Janney of Waukesha, all members of the Board of Governors of the state organization, Numismatists of Wisconsin.

Twenty coin dealers from various parts of the state were present at bourse tables. Harry Jarvis & Glen Williams were co-chairmen for the Jamboree.

We saw you at the Baraboo Coin Show October 31, and November 1.

Jim Medd of Green Bay and his wife talk with Mrs. Virgil Jackson.

Ray Leitz, Packwaukee, stands behind his table as a customer looks at coins.

Clayton High, Eau Claire, checks a "bargin" at the table of Gordon Gill.

AT WISCONSIN VALLEY COIN CLUB BANQUET

Best in Show ..... D. Goetsch
U.S. Coins
1st ..... Mrs. W. Schenk
2nd ..... C. Schepp
Paper Money
1st ..... R. Gast
2nd ..... Sully Schepp
Miscellaneous
1st ..... D. Case
2nd ..... G. Johnson

AT FOND DU LAC

Best in Show ..... James Medd
"Coins of Mexico & Canada"
U.S. Coins ..... Mrs. Virgil Jackson
Foreign ..... Mrs. Virgil Jackson
Paper Money ..... Harvey Kowalewski
Miscellaneous .... Harvey Binder
Junior Awards .... James Medd & Marsha Kellom
Special Award .... Virgil Jackson

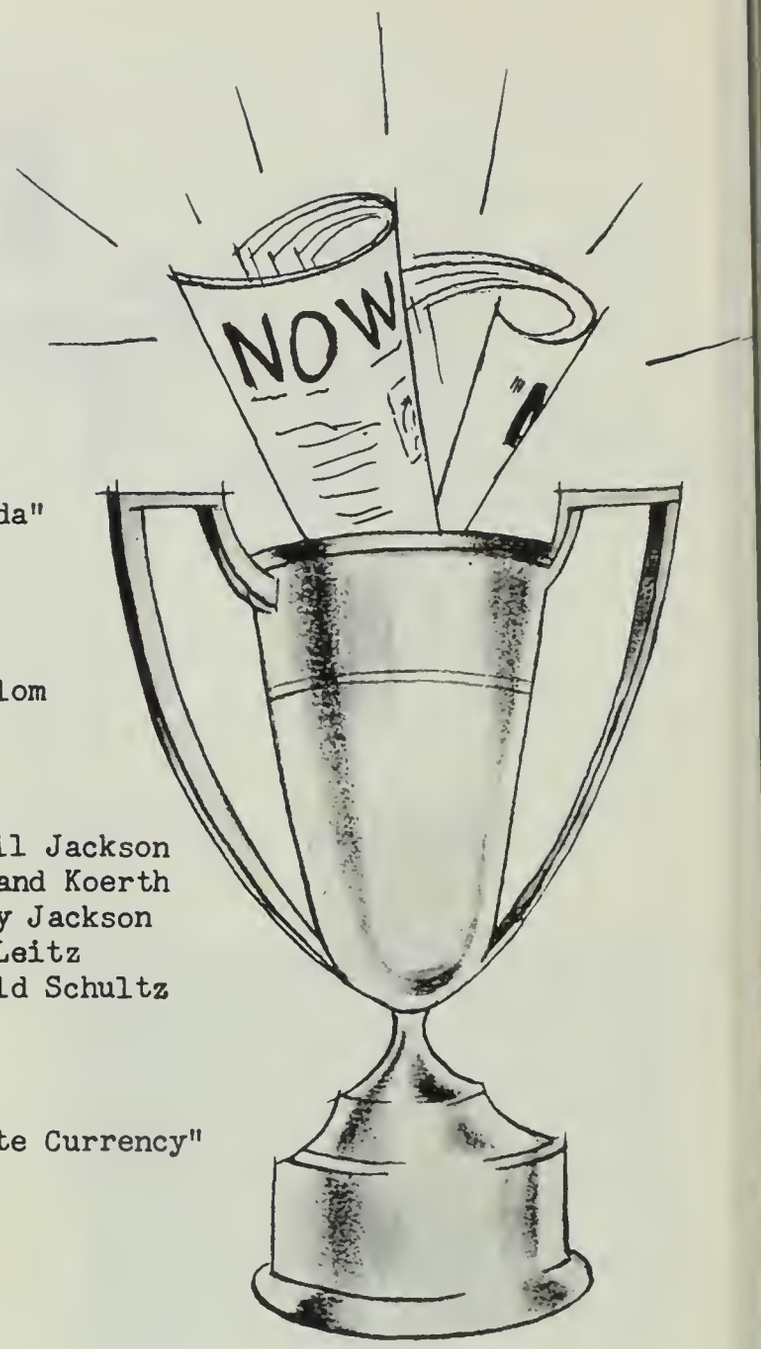
AT BARABOO

Best in Show & 1st (Paper Money) .... Virgil Jackson
Special Award & 1st (U.S. Coins) .... Rolland Koerth
Foreign ..... Daisy Jackson
Odd & Curious ..... Ray Leitz
Junior Award ..... Gerald Schultz

AT MILWAUKEE

Best in Show ..... Ron Calkins
"Uncut Sheets of Obsolete Currency"
U.S. Coins
1st ..... Mrs. Lois Janke
2nd ..... Louis Mengsol
3rd (tie) ..... James Thurber &
Mrs. Charles Opitz
Foreign
1st ..... Leonard McQuinn
2nd ..... Edward Mengsol
3rd ..... Anthony Tramte
Paper Money
1st ..... Delbert Bertschey
2nd ..... Nancy Opitz
Miscellaneous
1st ..... Kenneth Kantak
2nd ..... Myrtle Swain
3rd ..... Wm. Spencer

The Exhibit judges were: C.F. Bailey of Iola, Wisconsin, Jim Smidd, president of the Green Bay Coin Club, and Lauretta Schoen, Secretary of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society.



AT LA CROSSE

Senior Division
Best in Show ..... Virgil Jackson
U.S. Currency
Odd & Curious ..... Ray Leitz
U.S. Coins ..... John Leisgange
Foreign Coins ..... Arthur Guire
Medals & Tokens ... Muriel Manthe

Junior Division
U.S. Coins ..... Tom Netwal
(jointly) Dave Johnson
Dave Olson
Foreign ..... Joseph Hays
(So. America)

1964 LISTING OF WISCONSIN COIN CLUBS

AMERY COIN CLUB	Ruth Wolding Amery, Wisconsin
BARABOO COIN CLUB 1st Tuesday - 8 p.m. City Hall	Alice Ruhland 518 W. Main Street Reedsburg, Wis.
BEAVER DAM COIN CLUB 3rd Thursday - 8 p.m. Lake Taho Country Club	Ed Kellom Rt. 1 - Box 108 Beaver Dam, Wis.
BELOIT COIN CLUB 1st Tuesday YMCA	Leonard Lockwood 1116 Hinsdale Ave. Beloit, Wis.
BLACK RIVER FALLS COIN CLUB	Fred Schoonover 320 N. 5th Street Black River Falls, Wis.
CAMPION ACADEMY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 1st Wednesday Bowling Alley	Prof. S. de Ranitz, Advisor Box 96 Prairie du Chien, Wis.
CASSVILLE COIN CLUB 2nd Wednesday	Leo R. Stratton, Jr. Rt. 1 Warrens, Wis. 54666
CHATEAU COIN CLUB 1st & 3rd Tuesday Log Chateau	Donald S. Johnson 623 Madison Street Oconto, Wis.
CHIPPEWA VALLEY COIN CLUB 1st & 3rd Thursday - 7:30 p.m. Eau Claire Recreation Dept. Bldg. Gibson,Street	Mrs. Maurice H. Nelson 1528 Garfield Ave. Altoona, Wis. 54720
DECORAH COIN CLUB 2nd & 4th Tuesday Public Library	Carl Groth 237 S. Street West Bend, Wis.
ELKHORN COIN CLUB 4th Wednesday Elkhorn Library Basement	Wm. J. Strang 112 Eames St. Elkhorn, Wis.
FISHBOWL COIN CLUB 1st Tuesday - 8 p.m. Walter Shramek's Resort Near Siren, Wis.	Rev. Joseph Kelchak % Shramek's Resort Siren, Wis.
FOND DU LAC COIN CLUB 2nd & 4th Thursday City Hall	Betty Benzie 85 Hamilton Place #4 Fond du Lac, Wis.

FOX VALLEY COIN CLUB 1st & 3rd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m. Appleton City Hall	Thomas Schmidt
JANESVILLE COIN CLUB 1st Thursday YMCA	Rose Jackson 1321 Mineral Point Ave. Janesville, Wis.
JEFFERSON LUTHERAN COIN AND STAMP CLUB	Mrs. Donald Lee Wilson Street Jefferson, Wisconsin
KENOSHA COIN CLUB 1st Thursday Sheridan Bowling Lanes	Mrs. Robert Stratton 938 - 73 Street Kenosha, Wis.
KETTLE MORAINE COIN AND STAMP CLUB 2nd Thursday - 8 p.m. Conference Room Moraine Motel Hwy. 45, West Bend	Carl B. Groth 237 A South St. West Bend, Wis.
LA CROSSE COIN CLUB 1st Tuesday Linker Hotel	Mrs. Eileen Felber 1471 Redfield St. La Crosse, Wis.
LAKESHORE COIN CLUB 1st Thursday Manitowoc Savings Bank	Edwin C. Ewen 2226 S. 10th Street Manitowoc, Wis. 54220
MADISON COIN CLUB 2nd Monday - Historical Society Library - Sellory Rm. 4th Wednesday - Jackson Clinic Library	Ronald Calkins Box 1412 Madison, Wis. 53701
MARSHFIELD COIN CLUB 2nd Monday Flame Room - Gas Company	Winnie Dake P.O. Box 91 Marshfield, Wis.
MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 3rd Wednesday War Memorial Center - Rm. 415	Miss Lauretta Schoen 495 Curtis Road West Allis, Wis. 54214
MONROE COIN CLUB Last Tuesday - 8 p.m. 1st National Bank	Doug Watson Box 38 Monroe, Wis.
NEENAH-MENASHA COIN CLUB 1st Thursday - 7:30 p.m. Menasha Library	Richard Anderson 408 Racine St. Menasha, Wis.
NICOLET COIN CLUB 2nd & 4th Tues. Green Bay YMCA	Milton F. Detert 715 Lincoln St. Green Bay, Wis.
OOSTBURG CEDAR GROVE 2nd Wednesday	Faye Schinn Sheboygan Falls, Wis.

OSHKOSH COIN CLUB 1st & 3rd Wednesday 1st National Bank Community Room	Mrs. Rose Luker 107 Bellaire Lane Oshkosh, Wis.
PAPER CITIES COIN CLUB 2nd & 4th Thursday Port Edwards YMCA	Gerald Johnson 1921 Chase St. Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.
RACINE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 2nd Thursday Catholic Center	Milan Alusic 2021 West Blvd. Racine, Wis.
RICHLAND CENTER COIN CLUB 2nd Tuesday Krouskop Store	Evan Myers Rt. #3 - Box 195 Richland Center, Wis.
STATE LINE COIN CLUB Randall, Wis.	
SHEBOYGAN COIN CLUB Every other Tuesday Grand Hotel	Lewis Stephenson
SOUTH SHORE COIN CLUB 2nd Sunday - 2 p.m. St. Roman Parish Hall	Jerome Horzewski 4969 S. 15th St. Milwaukee, Wis.
SPARTA COIN CLUB 1st Tuesday & 3rd Thursday	Glenn H. Smith 623 Walrath St. Sparta, Wis.
STEVENS POINT COIN CLUB	Earl Gyrion 2323 Post Road Stevens Point, Wis.
TOMAH COIN CLUB 3rd Tuesday Public Library	Nick Hasenstab 1103 Oak St. Tomah, Wis.
VIROQUA COIN CLUB 2nd Wednesday	
WAUKESHA COIN CLUB	Floyd Janny 205 Harrison Waukesha, Wis.
WAUPUN COIN CLUB 3rd Monday National Bank	Dale Beske 621 Wilcox Waupun, Wis.
WHITEWATER COIN CLUB 3rd Monday - 8 p.m. Amory	Bud Reinke 436 S. Franklin Whitewater, Wis.
WISCONSIN VALLEY COIN CLUB 1st & 3rd Tuesday Marathon Co. Historical Museum	Bernice Pope 117 Scott St. Wausau, Wis.
WMCA TEENAGERS COIN CLUB 2nd & 4th Saturday - 9:30 a.m.	New Central YMCA - Rm. 213 915 W. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee 3, Wis.

1964 CLUB LIST

The information in our club listing is up-to-date according to our records. We would appreciate any additional information or corrections. We strongly urge all clubs to get a post office box. In this way the address would never change and never be out of date.

EVERYONE READS
N.O.W. NEWS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 4-6 -- Numismatists of Wisconsin's annual convention at the Hotel Northland in Green Bay. Tom Fruit, 1257 North Platten, Green Bay, Wis.

April 23-25 -- Central States Numismatic Society's annual convention, Pick-Congress Hotel, Chicago, Ill. Dick Peterson, 12906 S. Union Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60628

April 24 - May 1 -- NATIONAL COIN WEEK General Chairmen, Lois Otis, Lincoln Avenue, Homewood, Ill. 60430

August 25-28 -- American Numismatic Association's 74th anniversary convention, Shamrock Hilton Hotel, Houston, Texas. General Chairman A. I. Martin, 6207 Chevy Chase Drive, Houston, Texas 77027.

N.O.W. News is published at least four times a year by Numismatists of Wisconsin, serving collectors and clubs throughout the state of Wisconsin.

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Gerald Johnson	Assoc. Editor

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Mail us your club news !

News, articles, and pictures should be sent to the editor. Clubs or persons interested in becoming members of NOW can contact James Kroepfl.

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